

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in this application.

In an April 18, 2007 Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 2-12 and claim 13. In particular, the Examiner objected to claims 2-12 as the preamble recited “wireless gateway” and claim 1, from which claims 2-12, recited “an enhanced wireless access point.” The applicant has amended the claims as requested by the Examiner. Regarding claim 13, the Examiner objected to claim 13 and interpreted the recitation of “means for providing an omni directional radio frequency patter” as “wherein the access point comprises means for providing an omni directional radio frequency pattern.” The applicant has amended the claim as requested. The applicant has made the requested amendments as the applicant does not believe the amendments are narrowing amendments related to the patentability of the claims. The applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the objections to claims 2-13.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-9 and 12-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable and obvious over United States Patent Number 6,507,322 (“Fang et al.”) in view of United States Published Patent Application Publication Number 2004/0169612 (“Song et al.”) The applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In particular, amended claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “at least one ground plane mounted on at least one substrate detachably coupled to the access point and radio frequency coupled to at least one of the at least one omni directional antenna, such that when the at least one ground plane is coupled to the access point the at least one omni directional antenna functions as a directional antenna to shape a coverage area of the access point and such that when the at least one ground plane is not coupled to the access point the at least one omni direction antenna provides an omni directional coverage area,” which is not shown by either Fang et al. or Song et al. either alone or in any reasonable combination thereof. Fang et al. simply shows a wireless access point. Further, Song et al. simply shows that a reflector placed behind an omni directional antenna may produce a directional antenna. However, as the Examiner seemingly agrees, neither Fang et al. nor Song et al. either alone or in a reasonable combination thereof shows “at least one ground plane mounted on at least one substrate detachably coupled to the access point and

radio frequency coupled to at least one of the at least one omni directional antenna, such that when the at least one ground plane is coupled to the access point the at least one omni directional antenna functions as a directional antenna to shape a coverage area of the access point and such that when the at least one ground plane is not coupled to the access point the at least one omni direction antenna provides an omni directional coverage area” as recited by amended claim 1. Thus, the applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 1 is not obvious in view of Fang et al. or Song et al. either alone or in any reasonable combination thereof.

Claim 13 has been amended to recite limitations similar to amended claim 1 and, at least by virtue of the similarity, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 13 is not obvious in view of Fang et al. or Song et al. either alone or in any reasonable combination thereof. Claims 2-9, 12, and 14-16 depend directly or indirectly from claims 1 and 13 and, at least by virtue of the dependency, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-9, 12, and 14-16 are not obvious in view of Fang et al. or Song et al. either alone or in any reasonable combination thereof.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1-9 and 12-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable and obvious over Fang et al. in view of Song et al.

Moreover, United States Patent Number 7,006,053 (“Zigler et al.”) does not cure the defect of Fang et al. and Song et al. noted above. In particular, Zigler et al. relates to a device providing an omni directional dipole antenna with a reflector, which is no more than is shown by Fang et al. and Song et al. in combination. Zigler et al., however, provides the reflector permanently mounted on a track, see for example, figures 9, 10, and 11 of Zigler et al. and the associated text. The reflector, permanently mounted on the track, provides a mechanism to assist in directing the radiation pattern of the omni directional antenna. However, Zigler while allowing the radiation pattern to be directed, does not provide “at least one ground plane mounted on at least one substrate detachably coupled to the access point and radio frequency coupled to at least one of the at least one omni directional antenna, such that when the at least one ground plane is coupled to the access point the at least one omni directional antenna functions as a directional antenna to shape a coverage area of the access point and such that when the at least one ground plane is not coupled to


the access point the at least one omni direction antenna provides an omni directional coverage area” as recited by claim 1.

Based on the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 1 is not obvious in view of Fang et al., Song et al., or Zigler et al. alone or in any reasonable combination thereof. Claims 13 and 17 have been amended to contain recitations similar to amended claim 1 and, at least by virtue of the similarity, are not obvious in view of Fang et al., Song et al., or Zigler et al. alone or in any reasonable combination thereof. Claims 2-12, 4-26, and 18-20 depend either directly or indirectly from amended claims 1, 13, and 17 and, at least by virtue of the dependency, are not obvious in view of Fang et al., Song et al., or Zigler et al. alone or in any reasonable combination thereof.

The applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of the claims.

No fee is believed due for entry of this paper. If a petition fee is required for consideration of this submission, please charge such fee to our Deposit Account No. 08-2623. If an extension of time under 35 C.F.R. § 1.136 is required to obtain entry of this Amendment, such an extension is requested. If there are fees due under 37 U.S.C. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 which are not otherwise accounted for, please charge our Deposit Account No. 08-2623.

Respectfully submitted this 22nd day of June 2007.



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